

REMARKS

Summary of Claim Status

Claims 1-10, 13-16, and 28-29 are pending in the present application after entry of the present amendment. Applicants have canceled Claims 11, 12, and 17-27 without prejudice, thereby rendering the rejection of these claims moot. Claims 6-8, 10, 12-16, and 18-27 are rejected for the reasons discussed below. Claim 29 is added.

Claims 9, 11, and 17 are objected to as depending from a rejected base claim, but indicated as allowable if properly rewritten in independent form. Claims 1-5 and 28 are allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for this acknowledgement of patentable subject matter.

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of the claims and withdrawal of the pending rejections and objections in view of the present amendment and in light of the following discussion.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 6-8, 10, 12, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Glenn, U.S. Patent No. 5,949,655 ("Glenn"). Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection and submit that Glenn does not teach or even suggest the claimed inventions. However, in the interests of advancing prosecution, Applicants have canceled Claims 12 and 18 without prejudice, reserving the right to present such claims in a subsequent continuing application, thereby rendering the rejection of those claims moot.

With respect to Claim 6, Applicants have added the features of Claim 11, which was indicated as allowable, and have canceled Claim 11. Applicants believe Claim 6 is now in form for allowance.

Claims 7, 8, and 10 depend from Claim 6, and thus are also believed to be in condition for allowance. New Claim 29 also depends from Claim 6, and is thus also believed to be in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request allowance of Claims 6-8, 10, and 29.

Furthermore, Claims 19-25 and 27 appear to be rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Glenn. Applicants have canceled Claims 19-25 and 27 without prejudice, thereby rendering the rejection moot. Applicants reserve the right to present such canceled claims in a subsequent continuing application.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 13-16 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glenn in view of Guthrie et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,352,195 ("Guthrie"). Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that Glenn and Guthrie, alone or in any combination, do not teach the claimed inventions. However, in the interests of advancing prosecution, Applicants have canceled Claim 26, thereby rendering its rejection moot. Applicants reserve the right to present Claim 26 in a subsequent continuing application.

With respect to Claim 13, Applicants have added the features of Claim 17, which was indicated as allowable, and have canceled Claim 17. Applicants believe Claim 13 is now in form for allowance.

Claims 14-16 depend from Claim 13, and thus are also believed to be in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request allowance of Claims 13-16.

Objections

Claims 9, 11, and 17 are objected to as being dependent from a rejected base claim, but indicated as otherwise allowable. Applicants thank the Examiner for this acknowledgement of allowable subject matter.

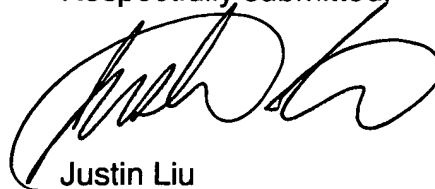
As noted above, Applicants have amended Claim 6 to include the features of canceled Claim 11. Therefore, Applicants believe amended Claim 6, corresponding to former Claim 11, is now in form for allowance. Claim 9 depends from Claim 6 and is therefore also believed to be in form for allowance.

Also as noted above, Applicants have amended Claim 13 to include the features of canceled Claim 17. Therefore, Applicants believe amended Claim 13, corresponding to former Claim 17, is now in form for allowance.

Conclusion

No new matter has been introduced by any of the above amendments. In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that Claims 1-10, 13-16, and 28-29 are in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is therefore requested. If action other than allowance is contemplated by the Examiner, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone Applicants' attorney, Justin Liu, at 408-879-4641.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 13, 2005.

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